

Florida House of Representatives

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PICKENS ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS TO STUDY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

TALLAHASSEE -- State Representative Joe Pickens (R-Palatka), Chair of the Florida House of Representatives Select Committee on Constitutional Amendments, today announced additional public hearings across the state to study the important process of amending the Florida Constitution. The Select Committee's first public hearing was held in December.

"The ideas presented to the Select Committee will assist the Legislature in crafting an approach to constitutional amendments, and this approach ultimately hinges on the partnership between the legislature and the citizens of Florida," said Rep. Pickens today. "Any changes to our current amending process must be approved by both the Legislature and the voters."

"The state constitution is the basic document which determines the structure and scope of our government, and a periodic review of the delicate amendment process is both necessary and healthy for our democracy," added Rep. Pickens. "As the Select Committee continues to canvass the state with public hearings, I am confident we will hear many ideas on this topic which will affect Florida's constitution for generations to come."

The Select Committee will hold public hearings at the following times and locations:

January 8, 2004: 1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Thursday Vincent A. Stabile Research Bldg., H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Institute

12902 Magnolia Drive, Tampa, FL 33612-9497

January 9, 2004: 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Friday Advanced Technology Center, Daytona Beach Community College

1770 Technology Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32120

January 12, 2004: 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Monday Room 404 House Office Building

402 South Monroe, Tallahassee, FL 32399

January 16, 2004: 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Friday The University Center, Majestic Palm Room, Florida Atlantic University

777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991